

EXHIBITIONS AND NOTICES.

April 23, 1912.

Dr. S. F. HARMER, F.R.S., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

The SECRETARY exhibited a living specimen of a young female Dorsal Hyrax (*Dendrohyrax dorsalis*) from Nigeria, recently presented to the Society by Mr. J. L. McKellar.

The SECRETARY exhibited a number of photographs of an Elephant Kraal in Siam which had been presented to the Society by the Rt. Hon. Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, P.C., G.C.M.G.

May 7, 1912.

Prof. E. A. MINCHIN, F.R.S., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

Mr. R. I. Pocock, F.R.S., F.L.S., F.Z.S., Superintendent of the Gardens, exhibited a skin and a living specimen of a fawn variety of the Brown Rat (*Epinomys norvegicus*), which had been caught on an island in the middle of Loch Corrib, Co. Galway, and presented to the Society by Lord Headley. Mr. Pocock remarked that although similarly coloured varieties of this rat had been caught now and again in different parts of England, it was especially interesting to put on record Lord Headley's statement that it was quite common on the island, no fewer than eleven having been trapped while others had been seen; and that it did not occur, so far as was known, on the mainland. Typically coloured brown rats lived on the island as well.

Mr. D. SETH SMITH, Curator of Birds, exhibited two horn-like sheaths which had been shed from the orange-coloured patch at the base of the lower mandible of the King Penguin (*Aptenodytes pennanti*) living in the Society's Gardens. Mr. W. E. de Winton had observed the shedding of this epidermal sheath in a bird living in the Gardens in 1898 (P. Z. S. 1898, p. 900); but although the present specimen had been carefully watched during two successive moults in March and October 1911 (P. Z. S. 1912, p. 60), no sign of this process was observed. The bird, however, went through another complete moult in March to April of the present year (1912), and shortly after this was completed the epidermal covering of the orange-coloured patches became loose and finally

fell off; the pieces somewhat resembled the wing-cases of a large beetle, being semi-transparent and of a clear orange-colour.

Dr. FRANCIS WARD, F.Z.S., showed a number of photographs and diagrams illustrating a method of observation of fishes, birds, and mammals under the water, the principle being that the subjects under consideration were illuminated by natural light, and the observer, being in a dark chamber in the water, was not seen. The appearance of black-feathered birds was shown; these, by carrying down air-bubbles among the feathers, were converted into reflectors: and a Water-Hen was shown bright red and then green as it reflected the different surroundings in which it had been placed. Otters and Seals were also shown as seen under the water. The demonstration was illustrated by numerous slides and by the cinematograph.

PAPERS.

37. On a Collection of Fishes made by Mr. A. Blayney Percival in British East Africa to the East of Lake Baringo. By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S., F.Z.S.*

[Received April 2, 1912: Read May 7, 1912.]

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The collection here reported upon, presented to the British Museum by Mr. Blayney Percival, is of special importance as coming from a district the fishes of which had not been collected before, from a watershed of its own without any communication with sea. The river called Eusso Nyiro, or Guaso Nyiro, quite distinct from the Southern Guaso Nyiro in German East Africa, takes its source to the east of Lake Baringo, separated from it and from Lake Rudolf by hill-ranges 1000 to 1500 feet higher (4000 to 5000 feet above sea-level) and is lost in the Lorian

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† For explanation of the Plates see p. 676.